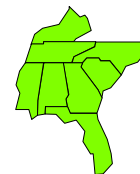




ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR



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Summer 2001

2001 REGION 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE

**"Sustainable Installations + Military Readiness =
Investment in our Nation's Future"**

**MAJ Rick Pietz – AEPI
Bob Mashburn - SREO**



**June 26 - June 28, 2001
Atlanta, Georgia**

"The landscape is changing for the Department of Defense and the Military Services!" This was the primary message presented by senior EPA, DoD, State and other Agency officials and Major

Command/installation managers and staff throughout the Region 4 EPA – DoD Environmental Conference held June 26 – 28, 2001 in Atlanta. These changes apply not only to the actual properties on and around the military installations but "outside the fence" with expanding involvement and interaction with the local community leaders, concerned citizens and other gov-

ernment agencies -- locally, regionally and nationally. "Leadership, courage and partnering" are replacing the old standards of "compliance enforcement, and show-cause."

MG R. L. Van Antwerp, the Army's senior Official for Installation Management and the conferences opening speaker, presented in dynamic fashion the message that "the strength of relationships" is critical to future military readiness and is serving Region 4 very well. "What you have here is not the norm, thanks to the strong working relationships of DoD, EPA Region 4, State leaders, Major Commands and Installation staff." "Much has been accomplished; a lot of work lies ahead!" asserted MG Van Antwerp as he moved around the large conference gathering. He praised

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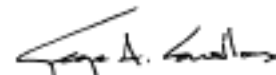
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“A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE”

Our lives have changed so much since I wrote my last editorial, I realize that I cannot add very much insight by this article. However, as we all grieve the tragic events of September 11, hopefully we take comfort in how much we share in common. For years, this region has become "recognized" for its true spirit of partnering and being able to work out reasonable solutions to complex environmental issues...normally accomplished through the efforts of many people simply "doing their job". Such an attitude has never been more important than today. Understandably, the regulatory communities often differ from the military communities on many specifics as we approach issues from different perspectives -- not right versus wrong -- just different. Encouragingly, both sides take great pride in the many accomplishments that we have forged together. The event of September 11th should serve to remind us of how important it is for us to properly balance our military readiness and environmental stewardship responsibilities and to find ways of accomplishing both. We have in the past, and I believe that we will in the future...by working together and building off each other's strengths.

In the aftermath of recent events, most of us have made a commitment to be better communicators...with our family, with our friends, and with our co-workers. In that spirit, I would like to introduce you to the great folks that serve you from this Regional Office. I feel very fortunate as this is a very talented group and very committed to making things better in this region. We look forward to working with you for years to come.



George A. Carellas
Department of Defense
Regional Environmental Coordinator

Ed Engbert

Ed is the Region IV REC and has worked for the Southern Regional Office since 1998. In addition to restoration partnering and other issues associated with North Carolina and Tennessee, he focuses mainly on helping plan and implement pollution prevention partnership activities throughout the region. He describes himself as an eternal optimist and well suited for these partnerships because they are helping open up opportunities to share ideas and resources for the first time as well as helping to increase awareness and support from the top military leadership. The partnerships are particularly good at helping team members overcome tradi-

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SUBMISSIONS

Environmental Monitor welcomes article and photo submissions. Please send articles and photos to:

**Southern Regional Environmental Office
U. S. Army Environmental Center
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3120
Atlanta, GA 30303-2716**

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tionally difficult challenges and the status quo by focusing on innovative solutions and ways to adopt a "can-do" attitude. Never a dull moment, Ed enjoys dreaming up new "can-do" projects for his home and spends the remaining part of his free time with his wife and three young boys.

David Buxbaum

David is SREO Regional Environmental Counsel. He recently joined the SREO team this summer. Previously, he worked for the Department of Energy's managing contractor in Oak Ridge, Tennessee responsible for the department's environmental restoration program. Mr. Buxbaum has been practicing environmental law for ten years and specializes in RCRA corrective action, environmental justice, and CERCLA response action issues (including natural resource damages and land use controls), as well as regulatory compliance matters. David is licensed to practice in the State of Tennessee. David is married and the proud father of one son.

J HAROLD (BOB) MASHBURN

Bob Mashburn is the Office Manager and Project Director for the Department of Defense/Army Southern Regional Environmental Office, a satellite office of the Army Environmental Center in Atlanta, Georgia. As a contract employee, Bob has been with Horne Engineering Services, Inc., serving as the OM/PD for the SREO since it initially opened in October 1995. He is the SREO Link for the Army Environmental Program in Alabama and Kentucky and serves as the recorder/record keeper and team member on the Region 4 Tier III Restoration Partnering Team and the State level Tier II Partnering Teams in Alabama and Kentucky. Bob retired from the Army in 1996 as a COL, having served 30 years as a career Chemical Officer. He commanded at every level from company through brigade and served in staff assignments from battalion/squadron, brigade division through corps and ARSTAF. He has a great family and a new granddaughter.

Jamie Higgins

Jamie Higgins has been an Army Regional Environmental Coordinator with SREO since 1996 and is currently a Colorado State University IPA. Jamie's primary duties include compliance issues to include RCRA, SDWA, CWA, and EPCRA, and she is the Army REC for South Carolina and Georgia. Jamie is the SREO representative for the South Carolina Tier 2 Restoration Partnership and the South Carolina Pollution Prevention Alliance. She also represents SREO on the Georgia Pollution Prevention Partnership. Jamie is particularly interested in water related issues and represents SREO on the Army Water Issues Working Group and the Southeast Natural Resources Leadership Group's Watershed Committee. Most recently, Jamie was appointed to the Metro North Georgia's Water Planning District's Technical Coordinating Committee where she will act as a liaison between military bases/organizations and the District. Jamie is also the range and munitions point of contact in SREO. As such, Jamie conducted Munitions Rule briefings in most of the states in Region 4. Prior to working at SREO, Jamie was a Chemical Officer on active duty with the Army. Just prior to taking the SREO position, Jamie was an Environmental Manager with the 81st Regional Support Command, which is a Army Reserve command that has responsibility of Army Reserve Centers throughout the Southeast.

As an avid whitewater and flatwater kayaker, she has a unique perspective and vested interest in ensuring that water bodies are protected and restored. Besides kayaking, Jamie enjoys spending her off-time in the great outdoors where she can be found cycling, mountain biking, hiking and camping.

Adrienne Willis

Adrienne is the Environmental Specialist for the Department of Defense/Army Southern Regional Environmental Office, a satellite office of the Army Environmental Center in Atlanta, Georgia. As a contract employee, Bob has been with Horne Engineering Services, Inc. since 2000. She is responsible for the information highway. She makes sure that the two publications the Monthly Review and the Quarterly Monitor is delivered to members of the States, DoD and Region 4. Prior to working at the Southern Regional Environmental Office, Adrienne worked at the U.S. Army Reserve Command Headquarters as the installations liaison. Her responsibilities included compliance, restoration, and pollution prevention issues related to Army Reserve the installations. She has experience in grant writing and working with local municipalities as well.

She enjoys reading, dancing and volunteering. She sings in the local church choir and has performed nationally.

Linda Sohns

Linda Sohns joined SREO as a contractor with Horne Engineering Services, Inc. in December 1997. Ms. Sohns manages the SREO's administrative duties, is the lead for the annual Earth Day activities and supports local SREO conferences. She completed 20 years of military service, has a son and a B.A. in Psychology. She enjoys reading, music, gardening, and her six cats.

(Continued from page 1)

the EPA, State, Major Commands and installation management and staff as “the real heroes of the environmental program....the ones that deal first hand with this important challenge every day.”

General Van Antwerp ended his remarks by citing ‘Three Areas of Concern’: 1) urban sprawl/encroachment are turning installations into “Islands of Diversity”; 2) threatened and endangered species require us to look beyond just training area and mitigation area management, and 3) the Army truly needs sustainable ranges, stating that “you can not simulate the value of live fire training.” He challenged the audience by stating “We all need to work together to address these major challenges, and we have the skills and motivation in this room to do just that.”

The Conference’s keynote speaker, Rear Admiral Larry C. Baucom, the Navy’s Director of Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health (CNO N45), further reiterated the praises for the Commands and staff for their great work. He shared some of the environmental challenges facing the Navy and presented a management strategy to make the Navy a real leader in sustainability. He brought to light many of the issues that are particular to the Navy, especially the situation involving the training ranges in Vieques, which will no longer be available to fulfill the Navy’s unique training requirements. Admiral Baucom stressed “the importance of relationships,” stating that the Navy hoped to continue working closely with the states and federal agencies to find solutions to future challenges.



The "Region 4 Executive Session for Environmental Leaders" conducted the first afternoon of the Conference, brought together for the first time senior officials from EPA Region 4, the eight states in the Region, the DoD and four military services, the Corps of Engineers and three Civilian Federal Agencies to discuss the challenges and opportunities for environmental quality management in Region 4. Even though the Session involved 21 different/diversified agencies, there was a degree of comfort and sense of openness visible throughout the session that reflected a high degree of respect, mutual trust and commitment to work together toward shared environmental goals. “What a great session! Based on the positive response and the definition of real issues, we can work as a team. We anticipate making this an annual event during the Conference,” stated George Carellas, the Region 4 Department of Defense Coordinator and facilitator for the Session.

With the expansion of the maneuver areas required to train to standard with the new fighting doctrine and advanced weapons systems, economic, social, geographic and political factors are becoming more prominent in the daily activities of the installation, its commanders and staff. MG James E. Donald, U. S. Army Forces Command’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and Installation Management, stressed the critical importance of having full involvement of all stakeholders. He stated that “Based on the critical nature of these components, it is no longer acceptable or prudent for the military leaders to “stay behind the gates” nor is it acceptable for the installations to be “islands of silence” when dealing with soldier skills and the quality of training at these installations.” COL Tad Davis, Garrison Commander for Fort Bragg painted a vivid picture of his interaction with the many stakeholders in and around the post and highlighted the major efforts being invested into the “Sustainable Installation” initiative at Fort Bragg. With an airborne smile and an aire of real pride, COL Davis closed his remarks with “Great things are happening at Fort Bragg and for the Army as a result of this effort, both for military readiness and the environment!”

The Conference luncheon speaker, Mr. Lindsay Thomas, former five-time US Congressman from Georgia and current chairman of the Chamber of Commerce for the State of Georgia, emphasized the importance of watershed management and policies dealing with quality of life issues. Mr. Thomas spoke of the phases of legal development in the environmental field, from zero restrictions to the present regulatory system, and reiterated Georgia’s commitment to support of the military. Ms. Cindy Dohner from the Fish and Wildlife Service strongly embraced the regional efforts to work as a combined team and expressed an interest in becoming more involved with the other stakeholders in working some of the major challenges. Mr. Ralph Collins, Kentucky’s Deputy Commissioner, brought to light the difficult issues facing DoD in dealing with various levels of

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individual state regulatory requirements on the same issue. Near the end of the session, he stated that he was "surprised that the other states shared so many of the same concerns and issues."

This year's Conference Theme "**Sustainable Installations + Military Readiness = Investment in our Nation's Future**" was selected to allow these three major components to be raised in a joint forum involving all the major stakeholders. The message sent by numerous participants throughout the conference involved:

- "Communication – early and often" on matters relating to essentially every aspect of military presence.
- "Sustainable Investments" as a way of doing business. We need joint long-term investments to deal with the challenges of environmental stewardship, protection of human health and the environment, natural resources, encroachment, and military readiness.
- "Strength of Relationships" generates success. We need to develop a greater degree of trust and confidence among all the primary stakeholders. We need strong leaders from all sides to stand up within their organizations and said, "We need to change the way we do this. They are not the enemy." We are seeing these key individuals stepping forward to propose a better way of doing business for the betterment of the whole.

As co-chairs for the Regional Conference, both Dr. Stan Meiburg, the Acting Regional Administrator and George Carellas, the DoD Regional Environmental Coordinator, both stated that the conference was a great success but "while DOD has made significant progress in our environmental stewardship efforts, we recognize that our greatest opportunities will only come by working in partnership with other federal, state, and local organizations." Tim Harrington - HarringtonTJ@mcrdpi.usmc.mil - provided a fitting closure to this important regional event when he stated "The Conference is a necessary catalyst for future improvements by all parties. It has driven the programs to the cusp of a new ideology on how environmental issues can be managed while preserving DoD's mission readiness and the regulatory community's authority."

NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE:

The "**2002 Region 4 Environmental Conference**" is scheduled for **25 - 27 Jun 2002** at the Westin Hotel in Atlanta. The Comment Sheets from this year were very complimentary, verifying that it was the best to date. However, several "good ideas" were made regarding ways to improve next year. We also had a few "dud rounds" that we will certainly try to resolve before next year's conference. To allow us to better serve and support your needs, please send us your thoughts on the basic focus, direction and content for the conference committee to use in planning. We would like to hear from you; please send your comments to the SREO POCs, Bob Mashburn at mashburn@sreo.army.mil A quick note will do.

DENIX POSTING OF PROCEEDINGS:

The DENIX Website – General Public has full coverage of the Region4 EPA – DoD Environmental Conference Proceedings and provides briefings/summaries for the various sessions. The Agenda provides a complete listing of the presentations/speakers. Some presentations are not posted because of size of the presentation or the compatibility of the program used. If you have questions on these particular slide presentations, please contact Bob Mashburn at mashburn@sreo.army.mil

Beached Creatures*Rare species inhabit Sandhills region at Fort Gordon***By Robert Pavey***Outdoors Editor of the Augusta Chronicle*

Do you like the beach?

Many Augustans are living on top of one - and don't even know it.

"They call it the Sandhills region, and there are a whole assortment of plants and animals specifically designed to occur here," said Ken Boyd, a Fort Gordon wildlife biologist.

Boyd, who studies rare and endangered species at the 56,000-acre military base, spoke to the Sierra Club last week about some of the unusual inhabitants of the prehistoric seashore that bisects Augusta.

The sandy boundary that separates the Coastal Plain from the Piedmont dates to the Cretaceous Period, when oceans still covered much of the Southeast. Even today, local deposits of marine sand are often 10-feet deep.

One of the Sandhills area's rarest birds is the red-cockaded woodpecker, a federally endangered species that prefers 100- to 125-year-old longleaf lines for nesting.

Longleaf pines are dependent on wildfires and periodic burning to thrive, and those fires are more scarce now because of timber practices and fire control programs, Boyd said.

At one time, there were 90 million acres of longleaf pine and wiregrass habitat in the Southeast, but only about 10 percent of those areas remain, and less than 1 percent of what remains is old growth.

Fort Gordon manages 400 acres of habitat for the woodpeckers, which excavate nesting cavities in live trees and line the entrance with sap to ward off predators. They will use the same nesting cavity for 20 years or more.

"They are very unique little birds," he said.

In all, there are 32 distinct species of plants, animals and fish found at Fort Gordon that fall within the threatened, endangered or "species of concern" categories, he said.

The gopher tortoise is another favorite among biologists. The gentle giant, adapted to burrowing in the soft prehistoric sand, is regarded as a "keystone species" because of its effect on other creatures.

"Its burrows provide habitat for other creatures," he said. "There are 130 different species - insects, animals, rodents, etc. - that have been found living in tortoise burrows."

Historically, the 25-foot-long subterranean tunnels also have been important as a refuge from forest fires that once burned their way across Sandhills vegetation.

Another Sandhills inhabitant most people rarely see is Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat, which has been spotted in at least two locations at Fort Gordon.

"It's a federal species of concern, and we tend to find it hanging around under bridges," he said.

The Sandhills region also is home to Cope's Gray Treefrog, the carnivorous pitcher plant, bald eagle, the Eastern fox squirrel, the flame azalea, the Southeastern American Kestrel (smallest member of the Falcon family) and the federally endangered Wood Stock.

Fort Gordon also manages a pond in which an endangered fish - the Robust Re-horse Sucker - is being raised for restocking into traditional habitats such as the Savannah River, Boyd said.



Gopher Tortoise



The fish was first discovered in 1870, but its absence over the next century led scientists to believe it had become extinct. Small populations were discovered in the 1990s in the Savannah and Oconee rivers.

Two Red-cockaded woodpeckers forage on a dead tree at Fort Gordon.

Plants and Animals of the Sandhills:

- Red-cockaded woodpecker: Requires 100-year-old longleaf pines for nesting habitat; federally endangered
- Wood stork: Migrates along east coast from Florida; nesting areas are in Jenkins and Burke counties; requires shallow marshes for feeding area
- Southeastern kestrel: Often called the "sparrow hawk," the tiny raptor is the smallest member of the falcon family.
- Gopher tortoise: Excavates burrows up to 30 feet in length that provide habitat for more than 100 other species.
- Southern hognose snake: A "species of concern" because of declining numbers; described by an 18th-century naturalist as "a spiteful, snappish creature."
- Sandhills rosemary: Unusual plant species native to sandhills; listed as a threatened species because of habitat loss
- Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat: Discovered at Fort Gordon during 1992 federal wildlife assessment, they like hanging around under bridges.
- Cope's Gray Treefrog: Has little suckers on its feet; its croaking is one way to tell the difference from a common treefrog
- Flame azalea: Beautiful wild flower requires forest fires to thrive

This article is compliments of the
Augusta Chronicle

2001 REGION 4 EPA/DoD/States ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE

EXECUTIVE SESSION - SUMMARY

26 Jun 01

The "Region 4 Executive Session for Environmental Leaders" brought together for the first time in joint forum senior officials from EPA Region 4, the eight states in the Region, the DoD and four military services, the Corps of Engineers and three Civilian Federal Agencies to discuss the challenges and opportunities for environmental quality management in Region 4. Even though the Session involved 21 different/diversified agencies, there was a degree of comfort and sense of openness visible throughout the session that reflected a high degree of respect, mutual trust and commitment to work together toward shared environmental goals.

This Summary highlights the major points from the presentations and discussions and attempts to capture the major "Successes" and "Issues" from the various participants.

Three key elements were prominent throughout the session:

1. The participants collectively presented a unified message of environmental stewardship and military readiness as important components to maintaining a strong nation.
2. Communications and partnering are credited with a significant part of current accomplishments and are absolutely essential to future successes.
3. Much has been accomplished; much work lies ahead.

**MAJOR POINTS COVERED DURING PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION:**

1. Communication/Partnering: "Communications" and "partnering" were identified by all 21 participants as the best way of doing business, serving as the basic framework for future actions and essential to success. Simply stated, "Partnering + Teamwork = Innovative Solutions." To make this approach work effectively, the principals must invest necessary resources. A situation needing some attention/support in this regard is the pollution prevention partnerships. DoD/military commands were asked to strengthen their investment/level of participation in these important regional/state-level partnering efforts.

2. Environmental Awareness: DoD has made significant improvements in the way it manages the environment. Military leaders, EPA and State officials, and the other agencies stated that commanders are more sensitive to environmental requirements, recognize the need for community involvement and are much more aware of the legal/long-term implications associated with the military bases and the environment. Training, awareness and strong top-down leadership have changed the military's way of handling environmental requirements. This change is attributed to a growing environmental awareness/education, recognition of potential impact on military readiness, and respect for citizens of the community.

3. Encroachment: Encroachment at military installations is a major problem and will continue to challenge military leaders as well as community/state officials to find better ways to allocate, prioritize and manage their lands. Pressure is coming from urban sprawl and is not confined to just around military bases. Responding to the encroachment challenges is really a two-way street that must have all parties involved early in the process, to include community leaders.

4. DSMOA/CA: DSMOA/CA is a good investment and is cited by all States as a key element to the success of DoD's cleanup efforts. The DSMOA/CA program has created opportunities and generated progress, thus allowing DoD to outpace the private sector/commercial cleanup efforts.



5. BRAC - Land Transfers: Confusion exists on all sides in dealing with land transfers. Several participants identified a need for developing a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Land Transfer Guidance Document that defines "who is supposed to do what while clearly defining up front who is in charge."

6. Land Use Controls: Land Use Controls and provisions for future management were cited by the eight States as a primary concern, particularly in regard to the future operations and maintenance monitoring requirements for land use restrictions. From the regulator perspective, the primary issue is the lack of oversight capabilities and enforceability options when restrictions are violated. For the BRAC properties,

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questions remain as to who is going to maintain the institutional controls and who will ensure engineering controls remain in place and are effective.

NOTE: There is a clear need for clarification/guidance relating to DoD's Policy on Implementation of Land Use Controls at Military Installations. The key questions relate to the DoD policy and provisions for establishing Memorandum of Agreements, the responsibilities related to oversight of Land Use Controls provisions, and for long-term management control. This is a major problem at active and closed/transferring/ transferred installations. Details are yet to be developed.



7. National Consistency: The question of "national consistency" versus "site specific standards" for cleanup has been an ongoing argument since the environmental programs started. The question always comes up of "doing things here but not being able to do it there." Dr. Meiburg stated that the idea of "one size fits all" wouldn't work. States are continually caught in this crossfire and seek to work with agencies/corporations on standards specific to the needs of their states. The basic solution is to frame these type actions as site-specific since national consistency issues are site specific.

Tied to national consistency is the challenge facing the military of taking actions that could be construed as establishing a national precedent that commits the DoD to follow that precedent in dealing with other States/regulatory agencies and could become very expensive at other sites. The solution relates back to structuring and managing actions on a site-specific basis.

8. Contracting: New and innovative contracting methods are needed to build efficiencies and satisfy future requirements. Several representatives, both military and states, stated that fixed-price remediation contracting is a good option for executing cleanup and will have a place in future BRAC requirements. Time will tell in the effectiveness of this contracting method.

9. Formerly Used Defense Sites: Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) management and oversight was raised as an area of concern by all the States. States feel they have been left out of the planning/review process and have no place to get specific information. Actions are underway at the Department of the Army to change the management structure to address these concerns. More to follow.

10. Clean Closure versus Managed Risk: In dealing with the cleanup of sites, particularly transfers of properties, several representatives emphasized that all parties need to look closely at "clean closure versus managed risk" before committing to any specific course of action. Total cleanup may turn out to be the best/cheapest option over time. Maybe a clean closure is the best option even if the initial costs are more expensive since the cost of long-term management and maintenance must be considered.

11. Federal Facilities Agreements (FFA): Several problems have been encountered in revising/updating/transitioning Federal Facilities Agreements at military installations. As an example, a negotiated FFA has been drafted for Cherry Point Marine Corps Base that the State/EPA have signed. The Navy has not signed the Agreement based on national guidance relating to the five-year reviews and secondary versus primary documents. The key issue is State enforceability options in the 5-year review process.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Standard Procedures for Land Management/Transfer: Mr. Leonard from Tennessee identified a need to develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to cut down on misunderstandings in working land management issues - especially for land transfers. The SOP would spell out roles, responsibilities and procedures for how to transfer property so that everyone knows up front what has to be done and who is responsible. The SOP would serve to reinforce partnering and working together.

Sharing Lessons Learned: There is a recognized need to share information on environmental management, procedures, and innovative solutions among all the organizations in the region. As an example, Mr. Sakowitz stated that the TRA-DOC Commanding General has directed that a "Lessons Learned" document at Fort McClellan be prepared based on experiences in BRAC. Queries were sent out to the various agencies to gain their feedback. Mr. Sakowitz stated that when final, this document would be available on request.

The details of the Executive Session will be posted with the conference proceedings on a website that we will provide you in a few weeks.

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Atlanta Conference Looks at P2

POC: Rodney Sobin, rsobin@deq.state.va.us.

The Region 4 EPA/DOD/States Environmental Conference took place June 26–28 at Atlanta's Westin Peachtree Hotel. While the theme of the conference was "Sustainable Installations + Military Readiness = Investment in Our Nation's Future," one of the conference tracks dealt exclusively with P2. Here is an overview of the topics presented.

Cam Metcalf of the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center, began the P2 sessions with his talk on Integrating P2 into an environmental management system. For a closer look at Metcalf's topic, see the accompanying article in this newsletter. **POC:** cam.metcalf@louisville.edu.

Karen Winnie, EMS/audit program manager at Eglin AFB, talked about implementing an EMS. Eglin's EMS, she said, is primarily concerned with total environmental stewardship, with the protection of natural resources. The mission comes first, of course, but not at the expense of the environment.

As with most military installations, Eglin doesn't deal with just one operation; in terms of complexity, the base may be compared with a city or even a county, says Winnie. Each of its operations and processes has an environmental aspect associated with it. To deal with the complexity, Eglin chose the ISO 14001 model for its EMS. Some of Eglin's EMS objectives are driven by the Air Force, but many are base-specific.

Understanding exactly what your installation does, she says, and the impact of what it does, is paramount in setting up a workable EMS. **POC:** Karen Winnie, winnie@eglin.af.mil.

Doug Piner (Camp Lejeune Env. Mgmt. Div.) and Allen Davis (CH2M HILL) gave a presentation on water resource management at N.C.'s Camp Lejeune. Their objective, they said, was to move Camp Lejeune toward eventual sustainability. They looked at a number of different approaches for their water-resources system.

With sustainability as the guiding principle, they looked at the economic, social, and environmental needs of the installation and the surrounding community. Over 100 operating facilities on the installation perform a wide range of processes. The ongoing effort focuses on the front end of those processes, not just the end of the pipe.

One product of Camp Lejeune's efforts is the development of an *Environmental Sustainability Guidance Manual*, which looks at water resources and seven other systems such as transportation, hazardous and solid waste, and building systems.

Toward its goal of sustainability, Camp Lejeune plans to minimize the use of potable water and shift demand to other water sources such as gray water. It also seeks to maximize the efficiency of the water distribution system. **POC:** Doug Piner, pinerdc@lejeune.usmc.mil. Allen Davis, adarisz@ch2m.com.

Michael Chang of Georgia Tech presented an overview of Georgia's Fall Line Air Quality Study. The fall line is a geologic divide that separates the piedmont region from the coastal plain. It's called the fall line because water actually falls there, and cities grew in the area because the falling water helped generate power for industry. Nevertheless, the FAQs has nothing to do with water, but rather with the air quality in the area. It's a cooperative effort in which the local communities work with the military installations.

One criterion for possible base closure is environmental impact, including air quality, and such closures have a tremendous economic impact on the surrounding communities. So Georgia Tech has been commissioned by the state of Ga. to do a three-year study of fall-line cities to determine why the air quality in that part of the state has worsened. The state of Ga. is committing its air-quality resources north of the fall line (primarily Atlanta); Georgia Tech is working below the fall line. The study should be wrapped up by December 2002. **POC:** Michael Chang, chang@eas.gatech.edu. Web: www.cure.gatech.edu/faqs.asp.

Rodney Sobin (Va. Dept. of Env. Quality) talked about the Interstate Technology & Regulatory Cooperation Work Group (ITRC) and the Technology Acceptance and Reciprocity Partnership (TARP). See the accompanying article for more detailed coverage of this topic.

ROUND THE REGION

By Ed Engbert, Region IV REC

In his best selling book *The Tipping Point*, author Malcolm Gladwell illustrates that contrary to popular belief, changes in our society can occur rather quickly. Described as "connectors", he talks about some common traits which make certain individuals effective messengers -- primarily, he attributes this to the fact that they not only know a lot of people but, more importantly, they know many different kinds of people. Plus, these "connectors" devote a lot of time and energy in developing a trust level that allows for the message to be heard and acted upon. In that context, the SREO tries to help fulfill a unique role for installations and MACOMs, especially in regard to EPA Region 4 and the corresponding 8 States

Considered one of the greatest opportunities each year to employ some of Mr. Malcolm's principles, the SREO was recently involved in hosting the annual environmental conference for DOD facilities in Region 4. With over 300 attendees and exhibitors from DOD, EPA, and the States, the evaluation comments rated this the best "regional conference ever" and confirmed that "the underlying success of this conference continues to be the ability to get people of varied backgrounds and interests to apply their energies and talents in a cohesive, productive manner". In fact, MG Van Antwerp even stated during his opening remarks that "It's all about relationships!" He had asked various individuals why they chose to attend this conference and began vividly illustrating the importance of renewing relationships...because that's how problems are resolved."

In keeping with this philosophy, a new feature at this year's conference was a joint forum in which senior officials from EPA Region 4, the eight states in the Region, DoD, the four military services, the Corps of Engineers and three Civilian Federal Agencies met to discuss the unique challenges and opportunities for environmental quality management in Region 4. As with any new initiative, there was some concern about the "value" of such an effort; however, the feedback after that session was very encouraging. Even though the Session involved 21 different/diversified agencies, there was a strong sense of comfort and openness that reflected a high degree of respect, mutual trust and commitment to work together toward shared environmental and military goals. As such, the military and environmental picture in the Southeast could be "Tipping" to an all-time high...

Perception and Reality of Cancer Clusters Near Army Installations

By Keera Cleare, kcleare@aepi.army.mil

As residential communities move closer to installation's fence lines, the Army must assess its ability to effectively address community health concerns due to training activities.

Within the last two decades the Army has received several complaints from communities who expressed concern that military training activities such as open burning and detonation (OB/OD) of munitions may be responsible for incidences of cancer clusters.

When several people die within miles of an installation due to a form of cancer, it is common to speculate cancer-causing agents derived from the nearby installation. However, to date, no confirmed cases of cancer clusters due to military training have been reported. A cluster is a quantitative term that describes an amount or magnitude. More importantly, a high number of cancer cases is not sufficient evidence of a cancer cluster. According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), cancer clusters occur when greater incidences of cancer cases occur within a geographic area, a particular group of people or a certain period of time.

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WINNING INSTALLATION

Benning Land Exchange Agreement Earns Native American Goodwill by Sally Shutt

Fort Benning Bayonet

After 11 years, an exchange agreement was signed Dec. 13 between the city of Columbus and Fort Benning, Ga., that moves them one step closer to the actual exchange of deeds.

Representatives from five American Indian nations also signed the historic agreement, which marks the first time provisions related to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act have been attached to land that will pass from federal to private control.

The city will deed to the post 2,156 acres in Chattahoochee County, the South Tract, for 2,124 acres of federal property off Schatulga Road, the North Tract, which Columbus plans to use for industrial development.

The city will give the Army \$3.8 million to make up the difference in real estate value between the two parcels. Fort Benning officials are seeking to have that money designated for environmental projects on the installation.

The land exchange agreement will be reviewed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and sent to the secretary of the Army for his signature, a process that could mean it will be several months before a deed exchanges hands, according to Columbus Mayor Bobby Peters.

This memorandum of agreement should be the last hurdle in a long process, Peters said. "We've had a lot of interest in the land already, and we are looking for high-tech, environmentally [responsible] businesses to come in."

Ceremony guests included U.S. Rep. Mac Collins (R-Ga.) and Maj. Gen. Phillip Anderson of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. American Indian leaders representing their tribes included Mikko Clayton Sylestine, Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas; Rena Duncan, Chickasaw Nation; A. D. Ellis, second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Fred McGhee, chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians; and James E. Billie, chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Duncan, director of cultural resources for the Chickasaw Nation, traveled from Oklahoma to witness the event. She will take home a copy of the document to be signed by her nation's chairman.

"This is precedent setting," Duncan said. "It's a very good day for Native Americans because of the protection of our cultural resources and sites, which are national treasures for the U.S. as a whole, not just Native Americans."

The agreement spells out how American Indian cultural artifacts and human remains discovered on the land will be handled. Additionally, the covenants will pass with the transfer of the land. They obligate the city to protect nine

American Indian sites on the North Tract and to consult with the tribes if preservation is not feasible.

Maj. Gen. John Le Moyne, Fort Benning's commanding general, thanked the representatives from each American Indian nation for their input in the cultural resources agreement. "This agreement reflects the mutual respect and understanding we have," Le Moyne said.

"This is a historic event for Indians, as well as for the U. S. military, the federal government and the city of Columbus. Today marks the first time in U.S. history that we have been able to make the process work," said Dr. Patricia Wickman, historic preservation officer for the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

"This is a great celebration," said Col. John Mitchell, former garrison commander. "Not only have we moved toward completion of a land exchange, but we have developed new protocols for working through sensitive issues. This process and the completion of an agreement will serve us well in the future."

More than an acre on post has been set aside as a reinterment site for any discovered remains.

In 1989, when the city approached the post with a land exchange proposal, neither party had any idea negotiations would take so long.

"Neither of us had an appreciation for the significant hurdles that would present themselves along the way," Mitchell said, referring to both cultural resources and environmental issues, such as protection of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.

During the past 18 months, the post consulted many times with leaders of 11 federally recognized tribes who have historic ties to the area.

Federal agencies are required by law to consult with American Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis when issues affecting the tribes' cultural heritage are involved.

Mike Gaymon, president of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce, also noted that the exchange has been a long time coming, "but it is worth the journey," he said. The city's new acquisition will provide about 1,500 acres for a business park development. A new marina is planned in the area, as well as a new multi-million dollar home for the National Infantry Museum.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release No.: **716 August 31, 2001** For more information contact: USAEC Public Affairs Melissa Plummer (410) 436-126; USAEC Public Affairs Cynthia Houston (410)436-1270

National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Approves Proposed AAP

In a unanimous vote, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) gave its resounding approval on July 13, 2001 to the proposed Army Alternate Procedures (AAP), designed to streamline Army compliance with federal historic preservation regulations. Upon publication in the Federal Register, the AAP will become an option for installations seeking to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

"The Army is the only Federal agency that has stepped up to the task of defining a new Agency-wide direction for its compliance with Section 106. Without the full support of Army Headquarters in this effort, meaningful change would not have been possible," said Cathryn Slater, recent former chairperson of the Council.

The AAP builds upon the concept of the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP), a requirement established by Army Regulation 200-4; the ICRMP covers all planned actions involving cultural resources for a 5-year period. The AAP allows installations to undertake the actions outlined in the ICRMP, which had been agreed upon in consultation with interested stakeholders – such as State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) and Native Americans and Native Hawaiians – without needing to go through project-by-project consultation. The Army could avoid \$1.5 to \$4.2 million annually in delay costs as installations choose the AAP over the standard method detailed in 36 CFR Part 800, based on a 1999 study by the Center for Army Analysis. In addition to saving money, such streamlined compliance will also save time and allow projects to be completed on schedule.

"The creation of these procedures shows how the Army cultural resources programs are supposed to work," said Col. Stanley H. Lillie, USAEC commander. "By adapting federal codes to the unique needs of the Army, we can both properly care for our historic properties and use the savings to support readiness."

"Much of the success of our ongoing partnership is derived from the active leadership role taken by the Army to preserve its heritage resources," said Slater. The Council showed its appreciation of the massive effort on the part of USAEC in bringing the AAP to fruition by bestowing the Chairman's Citation for Achievement in Historic Preservation to David Guldenzopf, Chief of the Cultural Resources Branch, and Scott Farley, Office of Counsel, for developing the concept and guiding it to completion. These were the first such awards ever to be presented by the Council.

The award recognizes individuals that demonstrate leadership in historic preservation, promote historic preservation values and partnerships, and develop effective and creative solutions to particular problems in historic preservation.

-The U.S. Army Environmental Center guides the Army's efforts to increase readiness, improve the well-being of our soldiers, and enhance community relationships through sound stewardship of the environment. The Center integrates, coordinates and oversees the implementation of the Army's environmental program for the Army Staff. It also provides technical services and products to the Department of the Army, the Army's major commands, and installation and unit commanders.

"Transforming The Army...Sustaining the Environment"

REGION 4 SPECIFICS

Region 4 Pollution Prevention Regional Partnership on the move.

Steering Committee Update

Chattanooga provides backdrop for first meeting

The steering committee of the DOD Region 4 P2 Partnership met in Chattanooga, Tenn., on May 10 and 11. This occasion marked the group's first formal meeting and helped define the role and mission of the committee and the partnership.

Among the speakers was Bob Donaghue of the Georgia Pollution Prevention Assistance Division, who gave an overview in which he referred to the partnership as a "first of its kind." He spoke of the potential embodied in this collaboration of 65 military installations, eight P2 organizations, and numerous universities, and said the partnership has the ability to tackle major environmental issues and regional environmental priorities. But, he emphasized, this potential can be realized only through a strong commitment; for the partnership to work, its members must take an active part in the process. This results-oriented partnership, according to Donaghue, could lead to further significant funding toward environmental issues.

George Carellas, the DOD's regional environmental coordinator, continued the topic of federal funding and related issues. He described the partnership as "a mechanism to make things happen" through the \$2 million funding. The funds will reside in an R&D account, with a two-year window in which to spend them; they will be considered Army funds, not DOD funds, but will be available for projects that potentially benefit all members of the partnership.

According to Carellas, the EPA and the individual states have demonstrated their support for P2, and this partnership represents an opportunity to reinforce the DOD's P2 goals. He mentioned that the DOD regional office focuses on developing the strongest state partnerships possible, because effective *state* partnerships lead to effective *regional* partnerships. Region 4 is the only region in which each state has its own P2 partnership, but a regional partnership can do things that those at the state level can't. The Region 4 P2 Partnership, Carellas said, reflects a long-term investment that will realize large dividends.

What are the objectives of the partnership? It seeks to strengthen the ability to meet P2 goals by using existing university programs, creating an easily accessible path to expertise, and working with regulatory communities. Carellas also pointed out the following specific objectives:

- Use P2 early in the process to satisfy state requirements and enhance military missions.
- Implement regional P2 contracts that are not workable on a local level. (The partnership is a network of people who trust each other, both personally and professionally.)
- Use a successful on-the-ground implementation of technology and technology transfer.

Action Items

Here are a few of the action items that came out of the steering committee meeting:

- Each branch of the service needs to talk with its respective major command to gain a greater commitment to the partnership.
- The expertise surveys need to be completed at the state partnership level, with the state DOD representatives responsible for doing so. The main goal of the surveys is to determine the priority needs of the partnership's members and to link these needs with the relevant expertise that resides within Region 4.
- The steering committee and the executive committee are to work on developing criteria for selecting projects to be funded.

POC: Christine Steagall, steagall@iopa.sc.edu, 803-777-7463.

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There are two recent cases involving the Army and alleged cancer clusters, both having the potential to impact the Army's mission. In April 2000, a coalition of California and Nevada groups filed suit against the Department of the Army and Sierra Army Depot, demanding the Army to stop Open Burning and Detonation of munitions at the installation. The group claimed emissions from the process are responsible for cancer in the community. Also, in 1997, Region 1 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, ordered the National Guard to cease training activities at the Massachusetts Military Reservation due to concern for drinking water contamination and high incidences of cancer in the community. Conclusions from health investigations at both installations found no significant clusters or patterns. However, community concerns with military activities continue at these sites, proving that the perception of a cancer cluster in a community can be as important as, or more important than, the reality of an actual cluster.

When dealing with fatal diseases such as cancer, the general public is unlikely to be satisfied with complex epidemiological or statistical reasoning that deny the existence or importance of a cluster. Health Education coupled with Risk Communication should also be an integral part of community involvement programs at military installations to foster understanding of cancer, cancer clusters, the environment and military training.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

Department of the Army
Army Environmental Center
Southern Regional Environmental Office
Attn: SFIM-AEC-SR
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 3120
Atlanta, GA 30303-2711

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